Application No. 10/727,592

Atty Docket No.: 245887US2CONT Inventors: Masayoshi MIYAMOTO, et al.

Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 are presently active in this application. Claims 18 and 19 are newly added by way of the present Preliminary Amendment.

New Claims 18 and 19 presented above are believed to be supported by the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed, for example Claims 1 and 10, respectively. Thus, no new matter is added thereby.

Examination on the merits of Claims 1-19 and an early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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GJM/SNS/GS:mda I:\ATTY\GS\24\$\245887\PRE AME.DOT Gregory J. Maier Attorney of Record Registration No. 25,599

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